

### **Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph from page 10 line 1 to page 11 line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to figure 3, the spacer 15 comprises a peripheral frame member 16 of square configuration. The frame member 16 also has a first major side (generally designated by the reference numeral 18 ) and an opposed second major side (generally designated by the reference numeral 20 ). The peripheral frame member 16 extends about and defines a framed core opening 22, i.e. the frame member 16 is disposed about the periphery of the framed core opening 22. In other words the framed core opening 22 extends from one major side 18 to the other major ~~side 22~~ side 20 of the frame member 16. The peripheral frame member 16 comprises a pair of side opening components 23 and a pair of side wall components 24. Each side opening component 23 comprises a first element 26 and a second element 28 associated with a respective major side of the frame member 16. Thus the first elements 26 are associated with the major side designated by the reference numeral 18 and the second elements 28 are associated with the major side designated by the reference numeral 20. These first and second elements (26 and 28) are spaced apart so as to define a framed side opening 30. Each framed side opening 30 is in fluid (i.e. air) communication with the framed core opening 22, i.e. air may pass through one of the framed side openings 26 into the framed core opening 22 and then through the other framed side opening 26 as illustrated by arrow 32. Each side wall component 24 (i.e. imperforate wall members) respectively interconnects the side opening components, i.e. each pair of the shown first and second elements ~~24 and 26~~ 26 and 28 is connected to both of the side wall components 24.

Please replace the paragraph from page 21 lines 14 to 19 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to figures 17 and 18, as mentioned above frame members of a core may be provided with snap lock connector elements. Figure ~~48~~ 17 illustrates a male and female approach to such connectors, i.e. a male element 162 is configured and disposed so as to be able to snap lock with the appropriately configured female element 164. Figure ~~49~~ 18 shows a snap hook type mechanism wherein respective resilient hook members 166 of adjacent spacers are able to cam over each other and then interhook each other.